

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 0052 with the following amended paragraph:

**[0052]** The described network elements include line cards and control cards executing the described processes. The line cards and control cards of the network elements include memories, processors, and/or Application Specific Integrated Circuits ("ASICs"). Such memory includes a machine-readable medium on which is stored a set of instructions (i.e., software) embodying any one, or all, of the methodologies described herein. Software can reside, completely or at least partially, within this memory and/or within the processor and/or ASICs. For the purpose of this specification, the term "machine-readable medium" shall be taken to include any mechanism that provides (i.e., stores and/or transmits) information in a form readable by a machine (e.g., a computer). For example, a machine-readable medium includes read only memory ("ROM"), random access memory ("RAM"), magnetic disk storage media, optical storage media, and flash memory devices, ~~electrical, optical, acoustical, or other form of propagated signals (e.g., carrier waves, infrared signals, digital signals, etc.), etc.~~